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## **Offender Escapes Custody of Transport Company at Philadelphia Airport**

An offender being returned to Delaware from a California prison escaped the custody of the privately-owned transport company overseeing his return. Taariq Ali (a.k.a Wendell Husser) escaped the custody of Prisoner Transport Services of America late Friday night at the Philadelphia International Airport.

Ali, transferred to California in 1995 as part of an Interstate Corrections Compact, was exiting a plane just before midnight when he ran away from his security escort. Handcuffed to a waist chain, Ali was able to elude capture and remains unaccounted for at this time.

Ali, 43, is black with black hair and brown eyes. He is 5'10" and weighs 165 pounds. He is serving a Life sentence for Attempted Murder 1<sup>st</sup> and Possession of a Deadly Weapon During the Commission of a Felony.

Department of Correction (DOC) officials were notified Sunday of the escape and have been in contact with the Philadelphia Police Department and the U.S. Marshal's Office. In addition, DOC Commissioner Carl Danberg ordered the activation of the Correctional Emergency Response Team Central Intelligence Group to aid in the effort of locating Ali. Danberg has also suspended all interstate transport of prisoners until it is determined how this incident occurred.

Law enforcement officials continue to search for Ali, who was last seen wearing a white T-shirt and khaki pants.

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